



1803-1806

THE LEWIS & CLARK BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION A Legendary Journey

2003-2006



NATIONAL COUNCIL of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial

c/o Lewis and Clark College 0615 Southwest Palatine Hill Road, Portland, Oregon 97219

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Thomas Jefferson's Vision

IN HIS FIRST INAUGURAL ADDRESS IN 1801,
PRESIDENT THOMAS JEFFERSON ENVISIONED,
"A rising nation, spread over a wide and fruitful land, advancing rapidly
to destinies beyond the reach of a mortal eye." On January 18, 1803,
HE DELIVERED A CONFIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS OUTLINING
A PLAN FOR EXPLORING TO THE "Western Ocean," AND REQUESTING
AN APPROPRIATION OF \$2,500 FOR WHAT WOULD BECOME THE
LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION.

THE EXPEDITION

THE UNITED STATES had purchased Louisiana Territory from France, and Jefferson dispatched Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, and the Corps of Volunteers for Northwest Discovery to find "...the most direct and practicable water communication across the continent for the purpose of commerce."

After extensive preparations throughout 1803 at Monticello, Washington D. C, Harper's Ferry, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Louisville, the Lewis and Clark Expedition set off from Camp River DuBois, Illinois, on May 14, 1804. The Corps of Discovery was a traveling community of Virginia planters, Kentucky frontiersmen, French-Canadian fur traders, a slave, and a young Native American mother carrying an infant. For the next twenty-eight months they traveled up the Missouri River, over the Rocky Mountains, down the Snake and Columbia Rivers, to the Pacific Ocean and back, exploring what are now the states of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and

Washington. They made diplomatic contact with over fifty sovereign indigenous nations and traveled peacefully through their homelands. The captains and some of the men kept detailed journals of the journey. Their words tell us a great, uniquely American story. The friendship of two different and extraordinary young men. The diversity, complexity, and generosity of Indian peoples. The Rocky Mountains. The Western Ocean. The voting equality of an Indian woman and a black slave — more than half a century before the Civil War, more than a century before the Nineteenth Amendment. The Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1803-1806 was a pivotal event in the evolution of our country. It stretched our national boundaries from sea to shining sea. Because of it America truly became a continent. It is a defining American story, and we have much to learn from it still.

THE BICENTENNIAL

The lure of Gazing upon the same landscapes, meeting descendants of the same people, getting bit by descendants of the same mosquitoes, walking in the footsteps of heroes is strong. From 2003 through 2006, our nation will observe the bicentennial of Lewis and Clark's journey — our true bicentennial as the complete nation Jefferson envisioned. An estimated twenty-five million travelers will camp/drive/bike/paddle/ride/walk in the explorers' footsteps. They will attend commemorative events, festivals, and re-enactments; view film, video, and online productions; visit interpretive and cultural centers, museums, and parks - eager to experience this American epic first hand.

The bicentennial is developing as an expansive four-year, American grass-roots observance, planned by local communities, tribes, states, federal agencies, organizations, and individuals from Monticello to the mouth of the Columbia River. And the world is watching.

National Council of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial

At the national level, the observance is being coordinated and supported by the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, founded in 1993 by the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. The Council is a private tax exempt organization established under the provisions of IRS Section 501(c)(3). Its mission is to commemorate Lewis and Clark's epic journey, rekindle its spirit of discovery, and acclaim the contributions and goodwill of the Native peoples. In cooperation with state, federal, and tribal governments — and all interested individuals and organizations, the Council promotes educational programs, cultural sensitivity and harmony, and the sustaining stewardship of natural and historical resources along the route of the expedition.

Through a series of Memoranda of Understanding, the Council has formally partnered with federal agencies; state bicentennial commissions; a growing number of the fifty-eight Native American tribes encountered by the expedition; state historical societies; and institutional partners - National Geographic Society, Thomas Jefferson Foundation, American Rivers, Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Advisory Committee, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Student Conservation Association, and other historical, cultural, and conservation organizations, to plan a 200th anniversary as ambitious in vision and scope as the expedition itself. That anniversary will cost millions of dollars more than the original funding appropriated by Congress in 1803.

The Council is governed by a twenty-five member Board of Directors and advised by a Circle of National Advisors chaired by Dr. Stephen Ambrose, a Circle of Tribal Advisors chaired by Amy Mossett of the Mandan-Hidatsa-Arikara Tribes, a Circle of State Bicentennial Advisors chaired by Clint Blackwood of the Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial

Commission, and Friends of the Bicentennial chaired by Gary Moulton, Ph.D. In turn, the Council informs and advises the U.S. House and Senate Lewis and Clark Caucuses. It serves as a national clearinghouse for news, event listings, resources, and promotions. It encourages historical accuracy and multi-cultural perspectives, advances cultural and heritage tourism, licenses bicentennial products and programs, identifies and develops sponsorship opportunities, and serves as the major fundraiser and fiscal agent for national bicentennial events.

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

THE COUNCIL'S PRIMARY PLANNING, coordinating, and fundraising partners are the National Park Service and its nonprofit adjutant, the National Park Foundation. The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

Within that mission it manages the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail as part of the National Trails System. The Park Service also manages significant sites along the trail such as the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (the Arch) in St. Louis and Fort Clatsop National Memorial in Astoria,Oregon — where the Corps of Discovery spent the cold rainy winter of 1805-06. It will soon launch a dynamic new national park — on wheels — a traveling Lewis and Clark classroom known as Corps of Discovery II.

The National Park Foundation, created by the U.S. Congress in 1967, is the official nonprofit, fundraising partner of the National Park Service. The National Park Foundation honors, enriches, and expands the legacy of private philanthropy that helped create and continues to sustain America's national parks.

THE COMMEMORATION

Planning for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration comprises four general categories. Three are national in scope; the fourth is regional.

A. Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future

A National Park Service Initiative

A MOBILE NATIONAL PARK. A traveling museum. A state-of-the-art technological classroom. Corps of Discovery II will be all of these things. It is a big vision planned by the National Park Service in collaboration with other federal agencies, private partners and supporters. Carried by three large vehicles, it will begin its journey at Monticello on March 1, 2003, and visit the eastern cities in which Meriwether Lewis prepared for his voyage. A gala send-off celebration will be held at the White House on July 4,2003.

From Washington DC, Corps II will follow the route of Lewis and Clark across the United States to the Oregon coast and return to St. Louis on September 23, 2006 - 200 years after the date of return of the original Corps of Discovery. It will travel, as nearly as possible, the exact route of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and will serve as an anchor for hundreds of local and regional commemorations. During the winter months when the original Corps of Discovery spent long periods of time in one place (Camp River DuBois, Fort Mandan, Fort Clatsop), Corps II will tour through metropolitan areas away from

the trail. Cities like Atlanta, Memphis, Miami, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Phoenix, Denver, Minneapolis, Detroit, and others can then experience its educational fun first hand.

Corps II staff will offer living history reenactments, interpretive programs, and natural and cultural history lessons. They will complement and supplement the programming offered by any given locale. The museum component will have hands-on exhibits, interactive computer programs, and an unforgettable laser show providing a link between the past and the future. Also planned are education programs for schoolchildren, a website chronicling the travels and activities of Corps II, and cable television and satellite feeds that will allow sharing of the Lewis and Clark story with an enormous world wide audience.

Corps of Discovery II will provide a focus for federal bicentennial activities along the trail and will integrate all national bicentennial programs. It will be the thread of continuity for a coherent national commemoration. During the 1,309 days of its journey (March 1, 2003, to September 23, 2006), it will emphasize conservation, history, education, and reconciliation with American Indian peoples. It will honor an emerging United States at the beginning of the 19th century, reveal the state of America at the beginning of the 21st century, and explore our future.

B. National Bicentennial Programs

IN ADDITION TO CORPS OF DISCOVERY II, projects of national scale supported or created by the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial include:

Stewardship of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail

The Council has partnered with the National Park Service and other federal agencies; Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, a thirty-two-year old national tax exempt organization with twenty-eight local chapters across the country; the National Geographic Society; Student Conservation Association; Sovereign Nations along the trail; state and local agencies; and hundreds of grassroots community organizations and individuals to ready the trail and promote its responsible and sustainable use, steward-ship, and protection during the bicentennial visitation years.

The Trail Stewardship Project is a comprehensive, common sense plan to help visitors enjoy a rewarding experience, while insuring that the bicentennial's legacy is not a devastated resource but a strong national trail for future generations to enjoy in its full natural and historical richness. That means strategies and facilities to manage visitor load; education programs and interpretive efforts along the trail; strong restrictions for ecologically, culturally, and archaeologically sensitive areas; respect for private property and tribal lands; support for public acquisition from willing sellers of significant trail sites; and promotion of sustainable tourism. A full inventory of the trail and grassroots stewardship projects began in 1998. The next step is to encourage a public ethic of stewardship and pride through a national media cam-

paign, including television, cable, radio, and print materials, to commence in 2002 and continue throughout the bicentennial.

2. Stewardship of the Rivers of Lewis and Clark

The Council has partnered with American Rivers to commemorate the bicentennial of the expedition by creating a river conservation legacy. American Rivers is a tax exempt national conservation organization, founded in 1973, and dedicated to protecting and restoring America's river systems and to fostering a river stewardship ethic. All of the rivers traveled by Lewis and Clark have been severely impacted by the course of history - development, damming and channelizing, agricultural and industrial waste, mining, logging, poor navigation practices, introduction of exotic species, overgrazing of stream banks. While it is not fully possible to restore these historic rivers to the wild-flowing watercourses the explorers traveled, American Rivers has launched a five-year plan, Voyage of Recovery, for repairing the Missouri, Lower Snake, and Columbia Rivers as much as possible. Voyage of Recovery's goals are habitat and species restoration, improved dam operations, revitalization of riverfront communities and economies, recovery of the great salmon runs, and public awareness.

3. Tribal Legacy Projects

The National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial is committed to programming that acclaims the contributions and goodwill of the Native peoples who encountered Lewis and Clark and that gives voice to Indian observations and interpretations of the expedition. The Council supports projects that result in sustained healing and meaningful dialogue between Sovereign Nations and between Sovereign Nations and the dominant

American culture. It supports projects that create lasting tribal legacies that will continue long after the bicentennial years.

In October 2000, with support from the Council, its Circle of Tribal Advisors, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Idaho's Nez Perce Tribe hosted the first-ever gathering of the fifty-eight tribes who encountered Lewis and Clark — representatives from twenty of the fifty-eight attended. The gathering was convened by Indian people for Indian people, in their traditional tribal ways. It provided a forum for deciding to what extent, and how, the tribes wish to participate in the bicentennial observance — which, for them will not be a celebration, but acknowledgement of enormous change and upheaval in the course of their histories. The gathering was a chance for reconciliation and healing of old animosities between tribes after nearly 200 years of Euro-American contact. And it created possibility for understanding and healing between Indians and non-Indians.

The attending tribes unanimously agreed to formalize their coalition and participate in the bicentennial. The emergent, pervading theme was unity. Dialogue focused on the need to tell their own stories about the expedition in their own ways; economic development and tribal tourism; infrastructure (cultural centers, roads, visitor facilities); tribal language education and preservation programs; bicentennial specific projects; fundraising; and continued expansion and solidification of the coalition to include all fifty-eight tribes.

The gathering will convene again in April 2001 in conjunction with the Council's annual planning workshop in Omaha, Nebraska; in September 2001 in North Dakota, to be hosted by the Mandan-Hidatsa-Arikara; and in April 2002 in Oregon, to be hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla. Thereafter, it will continue to be held as a semi-annual planning and coordi-

nating forum throughout the bicentennial years, each to be hosted by a different tribe or tribal region. Tribal legacy projects which develop from the gatherings will be supported by the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

4. Youth Projects

The Council has partnered with the Student Conservation Association to support the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial by fielding youth interpretive services and trail stewardship programs that cross agency, tribal, and organizational boundaries. SCA is the nation's largest and oldest provider of national and community service opportunities in conservation, involving student and adult volunteers in the stewardship of our public lands and natural and cultural resources. It operates in all fifty states as a conservation internship program for teenagers and young adults, who gain outdoor work and life skills by working on public lands in trail construction, wildlife management, interpretation, leadership and team building.

SCA's programs involve youth of color, young women and Native Americans enrolled in high school, college, and graduate school. It has national service agreements with all federal agencies with management responsibilities for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail — Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and numerous other state and federal agencies.

For the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, SCA will focus on recruiting and supporting Native American students in developing educational materials and programs that tell the Lewis and Clark story through their own histories. It will foster appreciation, protection, and preservation of the trail's natural, cultural and historical resources. And it will develop support materials for K-12

students, teachers, and the general public that present an accurate historic record of the expedition, provide opportunities for trail stewardship and maintenance, promote youth leadership, promote diversity, and teach minimum impact tourism. SCA will work closely with all partners in the Council's trail stewardship and tribal legacy efforts.

5. Corps of Education Partners

To honor Jefferson's directive to Lewis and Clark to "learn all you can," the National Council has joined with the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, the Mid-continent Regional Educational Laboratory, the National Education Association, and the University of Montana to form the Corps of Education Partners for development of education programs of national significance. The US Department of Education is also signatory to the Council's memorandum of understanding with federal agencies.

The first programming supported by the Education Partners is the University of Montana's Earth Observing System Education Project, a K-12 outreach program to help teachers understand and utilize NASA Earth imaging technology for teaching the route of Lewis and Clark and the changes it has undergone over the past 200 years. The project is building a robust website with online resources for viewing and accessing remote sensing imagery and GIS maps from individual classrooms. The technology is able to show changes in river flow, human development, ecological changes resulting from fires, floods,human impact, and more. This project employs the most advanced space age technology to teach about Lewis and Clark. The explorers would love it.

In November 2000 the Council hosted a national "Education Summit." The Summit brought new partners and projects to the program to integrate all areas of national programming, where possible,into bicentennial education efforts. In addition to the original Education Partners,new participants include the National Geographic Society, The Learning Channel,Project WET (Water Education for Teachers),Classroom Connect/Quest Interactive Expeditions, the Center for Innovation in Instruction, and the Newseum.

6. Arts and Humanities Projects

The National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial supports national projects in the arts and humanities that exhibit historical accuracy, cultural sensitivity and inclusiveness, and are educational in reach. This list of supported projects will grow as bicentennial planning advances.

a. "Who Was York?"

The first arts/humanities project endorsed by the Council is a one hour documentary film about the lone African-American member of the expedition.

William Clark's slave York was a man whose presence on the expedition was significant to its success. He joined the Corps of Discovery as a slave but earned the respect of Corps members and came to perform and be treated as an equal. He carried a gun, and he hunted with the others. Yet, at journey's end he resumed the role of slave. His life is a story of the human spirit. He experienced the heights and depths of the world in which he lived, from the excitement of the expedition to the heartbreak of slavery. He knew how it felt to be treated as property, as an equal, and as a superior. York's strength and character serve as an inspiration to all people in today's world. He deserves to be remembered as the hero he was, and his place in history should be preserved.

The Council supports "Who was York? A New Look at the Lewis and Clark Expedition," being developed by Filmworks

Northwest for distribution by PBS. Filmmaker Ron Craig is advised by the nation's leading Lewis and Clark and Black

History scholars. The film will be narrated by James DePreist, internationally renowned music director and conductor of the Oregon Symphony and nephew of legendary contralto

Marian Anderson. "Who was York?" will be supplemented by a companion children's book of the same title.

C. NATIONAL COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

The National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial is working with partners across the nation to prepare a series of up to twelve bicentennial events of national significance. These "signature" events will encourage participation by the largest possible number of citizens in ways that connect them physically, visually, and intellectually with the expedition and its historical sites. They will be held along the route of Lewis and Clark at chronologically appropriate times. Participating planning partners include Native American tribes, private groups, corporations and businesses, and local, state and federal agencies. The events will enhance economic development and tourism of Lewis and Clark sites with sensitivity to environmental and cultural issues. And they will be supported by financial contributions from citizens, corporations, foundations, historical associations, and local, state and federal agencies.

Two events are established, anchoring the commemoration from tidewater to tidewater. The remaining events are in varying stages of development by local organizers in all Lewis and Clark states. They will be announced as they receive Council endorsement.

1. Kick Off at Monticello, Charlottesville, Virginia – January 18, 2003

To coincide with the 200th anniversary of Jefferson's letter to Congress requesting appropriation of funds, the bicentennial commemoration "kick-off" event will be held on January 18, 2003. The Thomas Jefferson Foundation, in partnership with the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, the Virginia Historical Society, and the Home Front Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, will invite the American public and all tribal nations encountered by Lewis and Clark to gather and begin the four-year commemoration by gazing westward from Jefferson's beloved mountaintop home. The kick-off will recreate Jefferson's Indian Hall exhibits; publish new scholarship; offer seminars, tours, and other educational programming.

2. Lewis and Clark Pacific Commemoration, Mouth of the Columbia River – November 2005-06

"Ocian in View! O! the joy." — wrote William Clark on November 7,1805. To coincide with the 200th anniversary of the Corps of Discovery's historic arrival at the Pacific Ocean,the Lower Columbia region will host a national observance of the Corps' Fort Clatsop sojourn. The event will be hosted by Fort Clatsop National Memorial (National Park Service),Oregon Historical Society, Washington State Historical Society, Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Association of Astoria, Oregon, and Pacific County Friends of Lewis and Clark of Long Beach, Washington.

D. REGIONAL GRASSROOTS PROJECTS

IN 1999, AT THE REQUEST OF CONGRESS, the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial solicited submissions of proposed bicentennial projects and events from Trail states and tribes. The Council compiled an initial inventory of 320 projects valued at an aggregate \$350 million — including interpretive centers,tribal language programs,trail enhancement and protection,educational signage,public art, festivals,curricula, internet technology, and much more — and presented it to Congress in March 2000. Subsequently, the Council has compiled a second inventory refining the list to the thirty to fifty highest priorities and advocating a funding strategy. The refined list will be presented to Congress in early 2001. It includes local and regional projects and events from Virginia to the Pacific.

THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION is a once in a

lifetime opportunity to learn,reflect, and honor the emergence of our national identity. Jefferson's vision, the Corps of Discovery, the Native peoples, and the vast American landscape all shaped that identity and made this country the great nation it is.

Planning for this milestone anniversary in America's history began as a groundswell of grassroots enthusiasm and vision. Now it is igniting international excitement. A defining part of our national heritage, the Lewis and Clark Expedition is an epic story for all Americans to share.

Please join us on this legendary journey!



NATIONAL CIRCLE OF ADVISORS

Dr. Stephen Ambrose Historian and Author - Chair
John Fahey President, National Geographic Society
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The Honorable Robert S. Bergland Board of Regents, University of Minnesota

Dr. Robert E.Gatten Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, University of North Carolina at Greensboro



NATIONAL CIRCLE OF TRIBAL ADVISORS

Representatives from all tribes encountered by Lewis and Clark make up the Circle

Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians - Oregon

Chehalis Tribe - Oakville, Washington

Chinook Indian Tribe

(Chinook Proper, Clatsop, Cathlamet, Wahkiakum, Cathlapotle) - Chinook, Washington

Coeur D'Alene Tribal Council (Palouse) – Plummer, Idaho

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

(Palouse, some descendants of Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce) - Nespelem, Washington

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon

(Clatsop, Cathlamet, Clackamas, Multnomah, Clatskanie, Skilloot, Tillamook) - Grande Ronde, Oregon

Cowlitz Indian Tribe – Longview, Washington

Kootenai Tribal Council (Salish [Flathead], Kootenai) – Bonners Ferry, Idaho

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council (Salish, Kootenai) - Pablo, Montana

Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee – Lapwai, Idaho

Quinault Indian Nation Business Committee

(Chinook Proper, Cathlamet, Wahkiakum, Cathlapotle, Chehalis, Cowlitz, Quinault) - Taholah, Washington

Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council (Willapa Band of Chinook Proper, Lower Chehalis, Chinook Proper) — Tokeland, Washington

Northwestern Band of Shoshoni Nation (Lemhi Shoshone) — Blackfoot, Idaho

Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Business Council (Lemhi Shoshone, Bannock) — Fort Hall, Idaho



Spokane Tribe (Palouse) – Wellpinit, Washington

Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation (Umatilla, Walla Walla, Cayuse) — Pendleton, Oregon

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation (Tenino Bands, Wasco) — Warm Springs, Oregon

Yakama Indian Nation Tribal Council
(Yakama, Wishram, Cascades, Klickitat, Cowlitz) – Toppenish, Washington

Northern Arapahoe Business Council – Fort Washakie, Wyoming

Cheyenne-Arapahoe Business Committee (Arapahoe, Sutaio) – Concho, Oklahoma

Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council – Lame Deer, Montana

Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation

(Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara) - New Town, North Dakota

Fort Belknap Community Council

(Assiniboine) – Harlem, Montana

Gros-Ventre – Harlem, Montana

Fort Peck Tribal Executive Board (Assiniboine) — Poplar, Montana

Blackfeet Tribal Business Council – Browning, Montana

Chippewa Cree – Box Elder, Montana

Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana – Great Falls, Montana

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WASHINGTON David Nicandri - Washington State Historical Society

WEST VIRGINIA Betty Carver - West Virginia Division of Tourism

Signatories to Memorandum of Understanding between National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennialand Federal Agencies

Department of Agriculture
US Forest Service

Department of the Army

Corps of Engineers

Department of Education

Department of Energy

Department of the Interior

Bureau of Indian Affairs • Bureau of Land Management
US Fish and Wildlife Service • National Park Service • US Geological Survey

 $Department\ of\ Transportation-Federal\ Highway\ Administration$

Department of the Treasury – US Mint

National Endowment for the Arts



National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial c/o Lewis and Clark College

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